Excessive Billing in Nabha Telephone Exchanges

2717. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Communications has received complaints from telephone subscribers of Nabha in Punjab regarding consistent excessive billing;

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter; and

(c) what action is proposed to check the connivance of Department's employees in diverting the lines and resorting to other practices to favour some subscribers at the cost of others or that of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c) The information has been called for from G.M. Telecommunications, Punjab Circle, Ambala and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

Introduction of Car Phones under Bombay Mahanagar Telephone Nigam

2718. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to introduce car phones under the Bombay Mahanagar Telephone Nigam;

(b) whether it is a fact that high ranking persons in the Government have contacted some Swedish agency for obtaining these phones; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have agreed to introduce modern cellular mobile radio telephone system under Bombay Mahanagar Telephone Nigam.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Transmission losses in the Power Grids

2719. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are huge transmission losses in the power grids in the country;

(b) if so, what has been the reported loss due to transmission under N.T.P.C; and

(c) what specific steps would be taken to minimise these transmission losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) The transmission and distribution losses comprise, (a) losses in Extra High Voltage (EHV) transmission systems constituting the power grids, and (b) losses in high voltage and low voltage distribution networks. The losses under EHV transmission systems including NTPC's transmission systems, are very low as compared to the losses in the high voltage and low voltage distribution networks. Steps are being taken on a continued basis to restrict losses in the EHV transmission systems, through augmentation of the networks and other suitable technical measures.

Sand transportation job of the Bharat Coking Coal Limited

2720. SHRI NARAYAN KAR:
SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI K. MOHANAN:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what were the criteria for allocation of sand transportation con-

tracts for the next three years by the Bharat Coking Coal Limited;

(b) whether all these contractors are ex-servicemen's cooperatives; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof, indicating the names of the contractors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) to (c) Award of fresh contracts for the next three years has not yet been finalised. Existing contracts will be extended till the finalisation of fresh contracts, only one ex-servicemen's Cooperative has been formed recently primarily for coal transportation but it has not yet commenced business. It may be stated that as a rule, sand transportation contracts like other contracts are awarded by the company on the basis of rates quoted in open tender. Before awarding contracts, the company makes sure regarding the competence and resources of the tenderer for satisfatcory performance of the job. The company has also been advised to have the antecedents of the tenderers verified by local administration before awarding the contracts.

Recovery of amount from multinational drug companies

2721. DR. R. K. PODDAR:
SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:
SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the manner in which Government propose to recover the amount due from defaulting multinational drug companies as calculated by the Tandon Committee?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): Details of the amount assessed tentatively by the special team as recoverable from the companies for the period ending 31-12-1983 and the amounts recovered till date are given below:

S. No.	Name of the companies	Amount to be recovered (Rs.)	Amount recovered (Rs.)
1	M/s. Hoechst I Ltd.	5,64,12,423	3 crores
2	M/s. Cyanamid I Ltd.	4,92,00,247	50 lakhs
3	M/s. John Wyeth Ltd.	1,66,87,232	15 lakhs
4	M/s. Pfizer Ltd.	99,07,731	5 lakhs
5	M/s. Geoffery Manners Ltd.	29,85,268	—
6	M/s. Ethnor Ltd.	10,18,543	7,99,134
7	M/s. Franco Indian Pharmaceuticals.	—	42,936